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TWIN TALES: ARE ALL MEN ALIKE? AND THE LOST TITIAN—By Arthur Stringer. Bobbs-Merrill.
RICH RELATIVES—By Compton Mackenzie. Harpers.
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The Book Factory

By EDWARD ANTHONY.

A SPRIGHTLY SPRITE; OR, SIEGFRIED'S PLIGHT.

(One of the legends recounted in Robert J. Casey's enthralling book on Luxemburg, "The Land of Haunted Castles").

Siegfried of Luxemburg one night

(Or was it in the morning?)

Became enamored of a sprite

That chanced to be adorning

The countryside, as fairies do

Quite often in that duchy

(Excepting the disabled few

Who're lame and old and crutchy).

Well, Siegfried and the fairy soon

Were joined in blissful marriage

While peasants sang a bridal tune

And gayly shoed the carriage.

But when the wedding march was played

'Twas with the stipulation

That weekly Siegfried would give the maid

A Saturday vacation.

And it was further understood

He would not ask the reason.

And that attempts at prying would

Be looked upon as treason.

Sieg kept his promise for a while,

Then stole a look—the geezer!

(A Luxemburgian I would style

Him, if I were a wheezer).

Well, something happened—if you wish

To know it, get the volume.

I do not think it's fair to dish

Up secrets in this column

"GOLD SHOD."

We had to throw away the jacket of Newton Fueselle's "Gold Shod" (Boni & Liveright) before we could read the book in public conveyances. When we tried to read it in the subway the other day we created a near-sensation. Every one in the car stopped reading the *Subway Sun* and stared in open-mouthed wonder at the brilliant gold paper cover with which the publishers have provided the book. On the "L" the jacket made an even bigger hit. There the sun danced on it through a window and splashed golden light around us until we must have resembled an angel trying on a new halo. Or aren't haloes golden? Be that as it may, we had to throw the jacket away or be arrested for blocking the traffic.

Fueselle's book is the only thing we have ever seen that looks like a gold brick and isn't. Even after you throw the golden jacket away there is plenty of gold left. In fact, with the exception of Tarkington's "Alice Adams" and John Russell's "Where the Pavement Ends" it is the only real nugget we have found in the American gold mines this year.

We doubt if the evolution of a big business man has ever been traced in a novel with the skill that Fueselle accomplishes this in "Gold Shod." And if any one has ever pictured more faithfully the struggle between the artistic and the business instinct we'd like to know his name.

After the many sickening syrupy stories of American big business in which the hero, who rises from obscurity to the presidency of a bank or railroad, is presented as a stained-glass saint, it is a relief to meet a captain of industry like Newton Fueselle's Fielding Glinden, who finds time to be human and make trouble for himself and his family.

We thought for a while that we were going to dislike Glinden. This was early in the story when he was a kid. To show the boy's artistic tendencies the author pointed out that he used to clip from the newspapers pictures of painters, musicians and writers, and that one day when some one handed him a paper containing the picture of a traction magnate he uttered a horrified "I don't want it!"

No boy of 12—an age when most kids are stealing thrilling rides on the

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FAERY LANDS OF THE SOUTH SEAS—By James Norman Hall and Charles Bernard Nordhoff. Harpers.

Miscellaneous.

COMMENTS ON HACKS AND HUNTERS—By Lida L. Fleitmann. Scribners.
MARKETING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS—By Benjamin H. Hibbard. Appleton.
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THE DEVELOPMENT OF EMBROIDERY IN AMERICA—By Candace Wheeler. Harpers.

THE COMPLETE DOG BOOK—By Dr. William A. Bruette. Stewart Kidd. BARTHOLOMEW'S GENERAL MAP OF EUROPE, SHOWING BOUNDARIES OF STATES ACCORDING TO TREATIES. Edinburgh: John Bartholomew & Sons, Ltd.

TWENTY-FOUR PORTRAITS—By William Rothenstein. With Critical Appreciation by Various Hands. Harcourt-Brace.

back of trolleys—should find fault with the traction companies that make these things possible. It is a shockingly young age to begin to hate the capitalists, in the first place. No child, it seems to us, should begin under 16, or the passion will wear off, and once gone, it will be difficult of reclamation. The child will then grow up to love the capitalists—he may even sink so low as to patronize their subways and cars—and the parents will have a fine time squaring themselves with their radical friends.

As this is the only piece of piffle that the book contains we are willing to overlook it.

Fueselle has sincerity, imagination, a fine sense of the dramatic, and he knows how to draw character. As soon as he becomes a bit more philosophical—in other words, when we can see an occasional twinkle in his eye by way of assurance that he isn't taking everything so darned seriously—there is no reason why he shouldn't go as far as he likes in American literature. Right now he is head and shoulders above most of his contemporaries, and his next novel should place him four heads above all but two or three of them.

THE BULLET-DODGERS.

We have discovered, at last, why Zane Grey's heroes are so successful in escaping the many shots that are fired at them. They take the bullets by the horns and throw 'em, begosh!

De gustibus non est disputandum, as they say in the Latin Quarter. Some are interested in literature and some in—

Dumbelles-lettres.

DRINKING IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

The "Outline of History" and "The Book of Knowledge" have become rivals. Two publishers' announcements on our desk bear testimony to the interesting fact. Armed to the teeth with "stickers," as puzzling queries were called in our kid days, the Wells and Book of Knowledge forces are fighting out a bitter battle.

"How did Methuselah and the other patriarchs attain such extraordinary length of life?" shout the Wells retainers.

"Tut!" reply the Book of Knowledge braves. "How do birds find their way?"

"Think you're smart, don't you?" retaller the Wells crowd. "What was the real reason for the destruction of Babylon? And, since you are crowing so much, what simple device on Carthaginian ships changed the fate of the world?"

"Who wants to know that junk?" shout the Book of Knowledge forces. "Where does the day begin? And why do kettles sing? Answer those if you know so much!"

"Ho! ho! ho!" chuckle the Wellsians. "You're peeved, then, are you? Forget your grouches and tell us this: What was in the 'Book of Sports' that infuriated the Puritans?" That's over your head like a balloon.

"Well, here's something that's over yours. The moon—what makes it white?"

"Well, of all the—"

We are sorry to interrupt, but we can't devote any more space to the harangue, interesting as it is. The only thing we wish to add is that we hear on good authority that the Book of Knowledge, if they win the argument, intend to bury the Wellsians in a vault bearing the inscription, "All's Well That Ends Wells."

As we give these interrogatory—or questionable, as one might call 'em—announcements a final perusal before tossing them away, it occurs to us that the only questions left unanswered by the "Book of Knowledge" and "The Outline of History" are—

(1) What is the thickness of a coat of varnish?

(2) How many coffee grinders are there in use in the United States?

(3) Did the Romans sleep in nightgowns or pajamas?

Works and Ways of the Authors

Mrs. Florence Smith Vincent, author of "Peter's Adventures in Meadowland," a juvenile published last autumn, has just finished her 1,048th child story. In the spring a second book of Peter's adventures, this time in birdland, will be published. Her third volume will find Peter in the animal world. Mrs. Vincent's work grew out of an ambition dating back to childhood. She made her start by selling a story to a child's magazine, for which she received five dollars. And even while she was yet a student in high school she began to do settlement work among children.

In a search through old newspaper files an interesting interview of 1904 with the late Howard Pyle was unearthed. Those who have bought, or have hopes of getting for Christmas "Pyle's Book of Pirates" (Harpers), and all who have followed his progress will be interested in what the famous Quaker artist had to say about his art: "I suppose all illustrations are intended to illustrate a text. The best illustrations, however, are those that stand and are used upon their own intrinsic excellence. An illustrator must have originality and imagination. Many young artists splendidly equipped with technical knowledge carry their illustrations to publishers only to meet with disappointment because their work would make no impression on the hearts or the intelligence of the public."

Samuel Hopkins Adams, author of "Success" (Houghton-Mifflin), has moved to this city, where he will stay for the winter.

The birthday of Joel Chandler Harris ("Uncle Remus") will be observed in many New Jersey schools by the reading of Uncle Remus stories and a short sketch of his life. Joel Chandler Harris was born in Eatonton, Putnam county, Ga., on the 9th of December, 1848. Eatonton is a small town surrounded by cotton plantations which were tilled in those days by negro slaves. There in the oak and hickory woods lived Brer Fox and his cronies; there in the big red road Brer Rabbit and the little rabbits came out at dusk to play, and there, around many a cabin hearth, fire white children and black listened to tales of the creatures. It was an environment that was shared by all children of that place and time; but one little, timid, red-headed, freckle faced boy held the tales in his memory and later gave them to the world in a form that has moved thousands of children to love and laughter. Mrs. Warren C. King of Bound Brook, N. J., who is chairman of the Uncle Remus Memorial Association for the State of New Jersey, has secured the cooperation of many private and public schools in the State of New Jersey in the observance of Uncle Remus's birthday.

Asked at one time how he accounted for his success, Theodore Newton Vail, great captain of the telephone industry, replied: "By never being unwilling when young to do another man's work, and then, when older, by never doing anything somebody else could do better for me."

FAERY LANDS of the SOUTH SEAS



By HALL and NORDHOFF

YOU have not really penetrated the secret of the mystery and charm of the South Sea Islands until you have read this new book by James Norman Hall and Charles Bernard Nordhoff.

For two years now these young men have lived the native life, in the full adventure of youth, and haphazardly as only men untrammelled by any ties of responsibility could.

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You'll enjoy in this book all the lure and charm of the mystic isles, in which, incidentally, the authors have remained. An authentic book as delightful as it is penetrating. Illustrated \$4.00. Harper & Brothers, Publishers. Est. 1817. Franklin Sq., New York.

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